

Paradise Valley Unified School District | Meeting Minutes

Explorer School Council Meeting

Date: Sep 8, 2026

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Location: Virtual

Facilitator: Troy Fox, Principal

Committee Members Present:

- **Administrator Representative** – Troy Fox, Principal
- **Community Member Representative** – Sharon Kuehl
- **Teaching Staff Representative** – Kara Rosales, 8th grade teacher
- **Teaching Staff Representative** – Zachary Bennett, 7th grade teacher
- **Support Staff Representative** – Lauren Tarr, Administrative Assistant
- **Parent Representative** – Kristie Cowles
- **Parent Representative** – Karen Jackson

Agenda/Minutes

I. Future Electives

- A. There have been discussions about the possibility of High School Elective teachers coming to Explorer for one class to introduce their elective to our school and get our students interested in them. This would build a bridge between the Middle School and High School as well as slowly bring back electives like Engineering, Foreign Languages (other than Spanish), Computer Science and other Tech classes.
- B. There was also a discussion about the future possibility of having quarterly electives to give students a small sample of many different electives.

II. School Success Plan

- A. Our teachers continue to work with our students to maintain our excellent scores in both Math and English. We expect to retain our A school status. Mr. Fox will be attending a planning meeting to discuss ways to better uphold our rating.

III. Hopeful Projects

- A. We are hoping to have some painting done to the 300, 400 and 500 buildings. This will not be the whole building, just some accents. Nothing has been decided as to what will actually be done as of yet. The PTO intends to continue to paint murals around the campus as well. As of now, none are scheduled.

- B. Furniture Refresh - the current furniture is old and outdated, so over the next few years, we are looking to purchase new furniture for the campus. This means the Library/Media Space, outdoor areas, as well as classrooms. Teachers would like to get nesting desks that can be put together when working collaboratively, but split apart when testing.

IV. School Safety

- A. As of this meeting, there have been no major incidents at Explorer. The students have, for the most part, been good. We hope to continue this for the rest of the school year. With our new tardy sweep policy during passing periods, and the fact that we have fewer passing periods with our new time schedule, there has been a decrease in tardies as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 a.m.